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NOTE VERBALE DATED 22 MAY 1992 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF LATVIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

The Permanent Representative of Latvia to the United Nations presents his compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and refers to his note dated 3 April 1992 concerning the imposition of sanctions against the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya. The Permanent Representative of Latvia wishes to inform the Secretary-General that the Government of Latvia is deeply concerned with its inability to comply with paragraphs 4 (a) and 4 (b), 5 (a) and 5 (b) and 6 (c) of Security Council resolution 748 (1992).

As to the embargo on exports of weapons and military supplies to the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, provided for in paragraph 5 (a), and to the prohibition on provision of technical advice, assistance or training related to such exports, provided for in paragraph 5 (b), the Permanent Representative refers to his letter dated 30 April 1992 addressed to the President of the Security Council and to the annex to that letter (S/23864). The document alerted the Security Council of the presence of a Libyan submarine under construction in Bolderaja, Latvia, at the 177th ship reconstruction factory of the Baltic Sea naval fleet of the former Soviet Union. Attention was also drawn to the Libyan naval forces reconstruction brigade, composed of 9 officers and 17 specialists, who had arrived in Bolderaja with their families. To date, representatives of the Russian Federation have communicated to representatives of Latvia that work on the Libyan submarine has been halted, that the Libyan submarine will not be delivered to the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya while the United Nations sanctions are in effect and that the Libyan military personnel will depart from Latvia. The Government of Latvia is unable to verify the accuracy of the statement as it has been denied access to the 177th ship reconstruction factory in Bolderaja.

As to the prohibitions on air travel and on the supply of aircraft to the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, provided for in paragraphs 4 (a) and 4 (b), the Government of Latvia has been denied access to all former Soviet military air bases on the territory of Latvia. Therefore, the Government of Latvia is unable to verify that it is in compliance with paragraphs 4 (a) and 4 (b).

As to the imposition of entry controls for known Libyan nationals who have been denied entry or expelled from other States because of their involvement in terrorist activities, provided for in paragraph 6 (c), the Government of Latvia has been unable to monitor the credentials of persons entering the territory of Latvia utilizing military channels. Therefore, the Government of Latvia is unable to verify that it is in compliance with paragraph 6 (c).

The Permanent Representative of Latvia expresses his hope that the United Nations will send a fact-finding team to Latvia to inspect the Russian-controlled military installations, as requested in his letter dated 30 April 1992, with annex. Such assistance from the United Nations would enable the Government of Latvia to comply with the mandatory measures adopted by the Security Council in resolution 748 (1992).

No specific actions by Latvia have been necessary with respect to the remaining provisions of resolution 748 (1992). In particular:

(a) Paragraph 5 (c), as no Latvian officials or agents are present in the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya advising the Libyan Government on military matters;

(b) Paragraph 6 (a), as Latvia and the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya do not maintain missions in each other's countries;

(c) Paragraph 6 (b), as Libyan Arab Airlines does not maintain an office in Latvia.

The Government of Latvia assures the Secretary-General that it is willing to act strictly in accordance with the provisions of the resolution, as well as to cooperate fully with the Committee established pursuant to the resolution in the fulfilment of its tasks, as called for in paragraphs 7 and 10 in the resolution. However, as the Government of Latvia has not been permitted to inspect any of the Russian-controlled military bases and facilities on the territory of Latvia, it states that, without the assistance of the United Nations, the Government of Latvia is unable to comply with all of the provisions of resolution 748 (1992).